

# SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

Parish Bulletin for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Ordinary  
Season - 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018

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## THE ARCHANGELS - MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL

Saturday of this week is the Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. In the underground Chapel of the Angels in the Grotto, there are three stained glass windows, where the Archangels are depicted. Who are the Archangels and why do we honour them?

**M**ichael in Hebrew means 'who is like God?' He is often known as 'The prince of the heavenly host', and is usually pictured as a strong warrior, dressed in battle armour. His name appears in the Bible four times: twice in the Old Testament Book of Daniel, and once in the New Testament, in the Letter of St. Jude and the Book of Revelation. In the latter we learn about a great battle in heaven, with St. Michael and his angels combatting Lucifer and the other fallen angels. It is for this reason that Saint Michael is invoked as a helper in our daily fight against the devil, hence the old prayer: 'St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the wicked spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.'



The Feast day is often referred to as 'Michaelmas' - in Academic circles it marks the first term of the new academic year in many of the old universities like St. Andrews, Glasgow... Meanwhile in the Legal world 'Michaelmas' refers to the first of the four terms into which the legal year is divided by the Courts. A 'Red Mass' (in St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh) is celebrated on the Sunday nearest the feast to call down God's blessing upon the legal profession.

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**G**abriel in Hebrew means 'God is my strength'. He appears three times in the Bible as a messenger sent by God: he was sent to Daniel in the Old Testament to explain a vision concerning the Messiah; he appeared to Zachariah when he was offering incense in the Temple, to foretell the birth of his son, John the Baptist; and most famously of all he was sent to the house of Mary in Nazareth to tell her that she was chosen to be the mother of God's divine Son at the Annunciation. His words to Mary, often called 'the Angelic Salutation', so simple and yet so full of meaning, 'Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee', have become the first line of the prayer 'the Hail Mary'. Saint Gabriel, the messenger, is the patron saint of those who work in the communications industries: broadcasters, postal workers etc.

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**R**aphael in Hebrew means 'God has healed'. He is mentioned in the Old Testament Book of Tobit: here Raphael first appears disguised in human form as the travelling companion of Tobit's son, Tobias, calling himself 'Azarias.' During the course of the journey the archangel's protection is shown most notably in the healing of Tobit who has become blind. Eventually Azarias makes himself known as 'the angel Raphael, one of the seven, who stand before the Lord.' Raphael because of his travels with Tobias is seen as the patron of travellers. In centuries past he was revered as a special protector of sailors: in the Doge's Palace in Venice, there is a statue depicting Raphael holding a scroll on which is written: '*Efficia fretum quietum*' (Keep the Gulf quiet - referring to the Gulf of Venice; the Venetians were great sailors). In the Fifteenth century when the Portuguese explorer Vasco Da Gama set out from Lisbon to sail to India, the flagship of the flotilla was named the St. Raphael. When they reached the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, the sailors disembarked and erected a column with a statue of Raphael for having seen them safely round the Cape and its notorious waters. **Fr. McGachey**



## NEXT SUNDAY IS LITTLE FLOWER SUNDAY

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, who, since the early 1920's, has had a special place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Carfin. At the conclusion of the Vigil Mass and the two Sunday Masses there will be an opportunity to receive an individual blessing with the Relic of the Saint.

At 7pm there will be a Torchlight Rosary Procession in the Grotto, followed by the Litany of Saint Therese, Veneration of the Relic and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Church. Light refreshments will be served in the Xavier Centre afterwards. Please join us if you can.

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**CALENDAR - Wednesday** is the memorial of the martyrs **Sts. Cosmas and Damian** who died in 303AD. Tradition holds they were twin brothers and physicians who never charged a fee for their medical services. On **Thursday** we remember **St. Vincent De Paul** (+1660). He founded the *Congregation of the Priests of the Mission* to preach especially to country people. With the help of Saint Louise de Marillac he established the *Sisters of Charity* to care for the needy and orphans. **Saint Lawrence Ruiz** (a Filipino husband and father) and **Companions** - known as the martyrs of Nagasaki - are remembered on **Friday**. **Saturday** is the Feast of the **Archangels, Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**.

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**SPECIAL COLLECTION** - Last week's Peter's Pence collection realised £1,198. Thank you.

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**THE ANNUAL SOLEMN NOVENA TO SAINT THERESE** - continues on Wednesday of this week at 7pm in the Parish Church. The service includes, as well as the Novena prayers, the 'Twenty-five Glory Be's', veneration of the relic and Benediction.

**THE XAVIER CENTRE** - To make bookings or enquires about the Xavier Centre either ring 07581239872 or use the new email address: [xaviercentre@gmail.com](mailto:xaviercentre@gmail.com).

**READERS** - Please collect your new rota from the Sacristy today.

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## CALENDAR

**SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER - VINCENTIAN DAY** - Rosary Procession at 1pm. Holy Mass at 2pm.

**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER - ROSARY SUNDAY** - Bishop Toal will lead a Diocesan Torchlight Procession to mark the Feast of Our Lady of Holy Rosary, followed by Benediction in the Parish Church at 7pm. Light refreshments in the Xavier Centre afterwards.

**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER - TORCHLIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION AND FATIMA MASS, AND THE TRADITIONAL 'FATIMA ADEUS'** - at 7.30pm. This Mass will be a Vigil Mass of Sunday.

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**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**  
**NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS** begins,  
and continues for the subsequent eight weeks  
with Rosary, Novena Prayers  
and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm

<b>SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b>	8.00am The Church opens 9.00am Holy Mass for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Ordinary Season 11.00am Holy Mass for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Ordinary Season 11.00am The Shrines and the Chapels in the Grotto open 12noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel <b>NO EVENING DEVOTIONS</b>
<b>MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b>	9.00am The Parish Church opens 9.35am The Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass in the Parish Church 10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel until 4pm 1.00pm Holy Mass in the Parish Church 1.45pm Confessions in the Parish Church until 2.00pm
<b>TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b> SAINT ANDREW'S & ST. BRIDE'S HS	9.35am The Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass with the Miraculous Medal Novena 10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel until 4pm 1.00pm Holy Mass in the Parish Church 1.45pm Confessions until in the Parish Church until 2.00pm
<b>WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b>	9.35am The Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass 10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel until 4pm 1.00pm Holy Mass in the Parish Church with Novena to St. Thérèse 1.45pm Confessions in the Parish Church until 2.00pm <b>7.00pm The Little Flower Novena - Week 8</b>
<b>THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b> SAINT ANDREW'S & ST. BRIDE'S HS	9.35am The Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass with the Carfin Novena 10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Glass Chapel until 4pm 1.00pm Holy Mass in the Parish Church 1.45pm Confessions until 2.00pm
<b>FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b>	9.35am The Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass 10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel until 4pm
<b>SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b> VINCENTIAN PILGRIMAGE	<b>NO 10am MASS TODAY</b> 10.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel until 4pm <b>1.00pm Rosary Procession in the Grotto</b> <b>2.00pm Holy Mass for the Vincentian Pilgrimage</b> 4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm 5.00pm Holy Mass
<b>SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup></b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b> LITTLE FLOWER SUNDAY	8.00am The Parish Church opens 9.00am Holy Mass for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Ordinary Season 11.00am Holy Mass for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Ordinary Season 12noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel <b>7.00pm Torchlight Rosary Procession in the Grotto, followed by Litany of Saint Therese, Veneration of the Relic and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Church. Light refreshments afterwards in the Xavier Centre</b>

## CONTACT US

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**CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATORS** Elizabeth McMahon & Geraldine Battersby

**SCOTTISH CHARITIES NUMBER** SC 011041

## THE SACRAMENTS

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** - Baptisms are celebrated most Sundays of the year, except during Lent and on Easter Sunday, at 12.30pm.

**THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE** - At least six months' notice must be given of intention to marry.

*Please telephone or email Father McGachey to make an appointment,  
or speak to Father McGachey or Deacon Jim after Mass at the weekend*

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

We are no longer able to publish the names of the sick in our weekly Bulletin because of the new Data Protection Laws that came into force on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Anne Bradshaw, James McGuinness sen., James McGuinness jnr., Billy Montieth, Mary Rose Kelly, Nan King, Pat Keenan, Margaret Sloan, David McIndo, Peter Burt (Shotts), Gillian Farrell, Sadie McStay, Sadie Newbury, Rita Marrioti, Frankie O'Connor, Hugh Regan, Michael Taylor, Mhairi Cox, Annie Donnelly, Joseph McIllduff, Mary Baines, Lizzie Morrison, Rita Houlth, Cornelius Docherty, James McDonald, Mary Ann McPhee.

**MONTHS MIND, ANNIVERSARIES, AND REMEMBRANCES** — James McGarry, Agnes Byrne, Matilda Sneddon, John Hough, Alicia Gallacher, Mary Therese Hattie, Frank Docherty, William and Mary Doherty, Bobby, Annie and William Chambers.

*Intimations for inclusion in the Bulletin should arrive before 7pm on a Thursday evening*

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

**FOR SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER - £1810.** Sincere thanks for your generosity to our Parish.